

THE NINTH TALE

SHAO

&

DAO

episode

4



王

TALES OF
THE KINGDOM

国

BY ASUMIKO
NAKAMURA

物

語

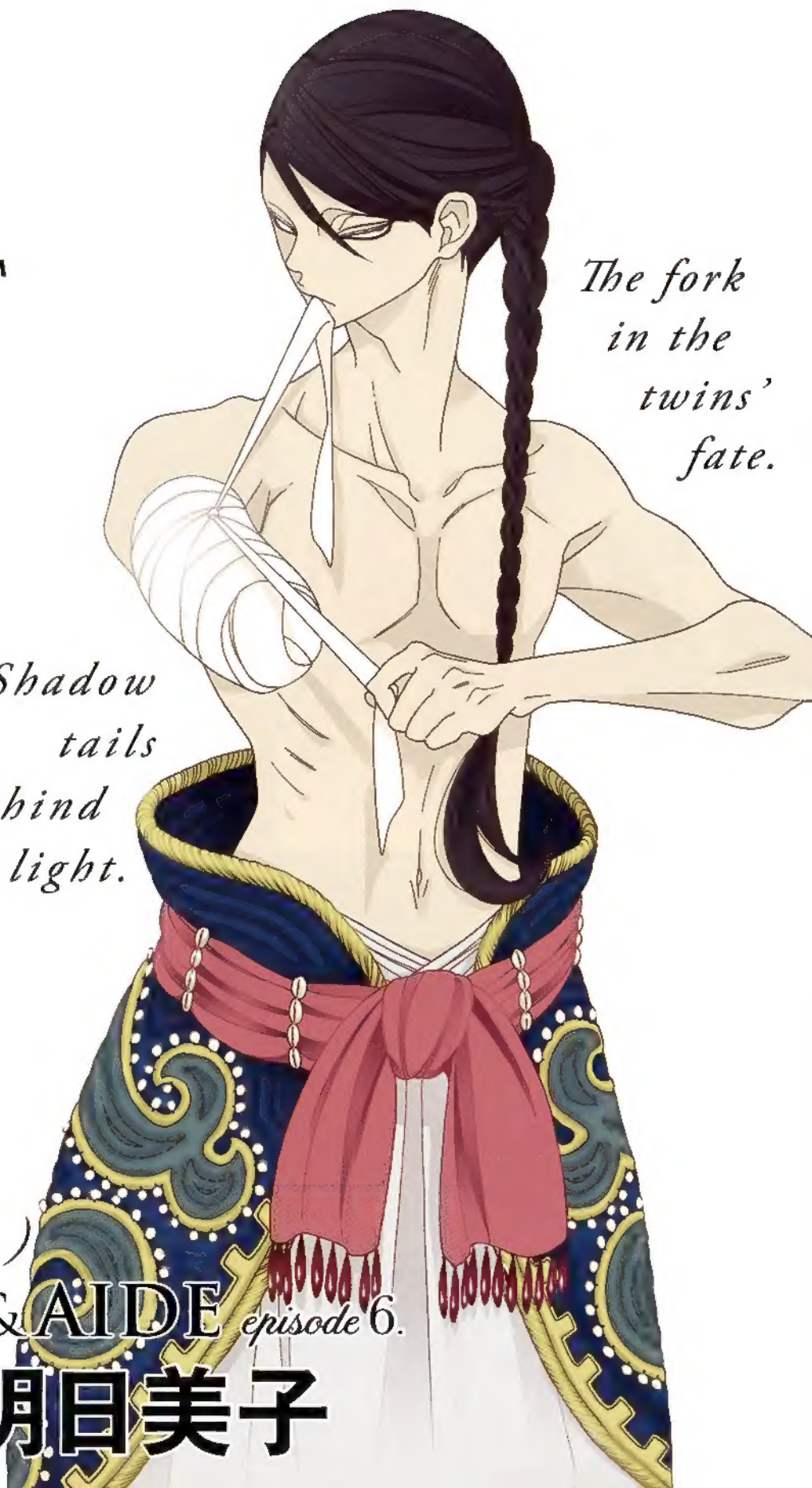
(The seventh tale)

KING & AIDE episode 6.

中村明日美子

*The fork
in the
twins'
fate.*

*Shadow
tails
behind
light.*



whatever.services

discord: VEEFvAb

decipherer: T

script copper: Tranquil Melancholy

script refiner: Carrie

script overseer: Tina

art forgers: Jax, Lapis

art forgers' overseer: Lapis

text forger: Variane

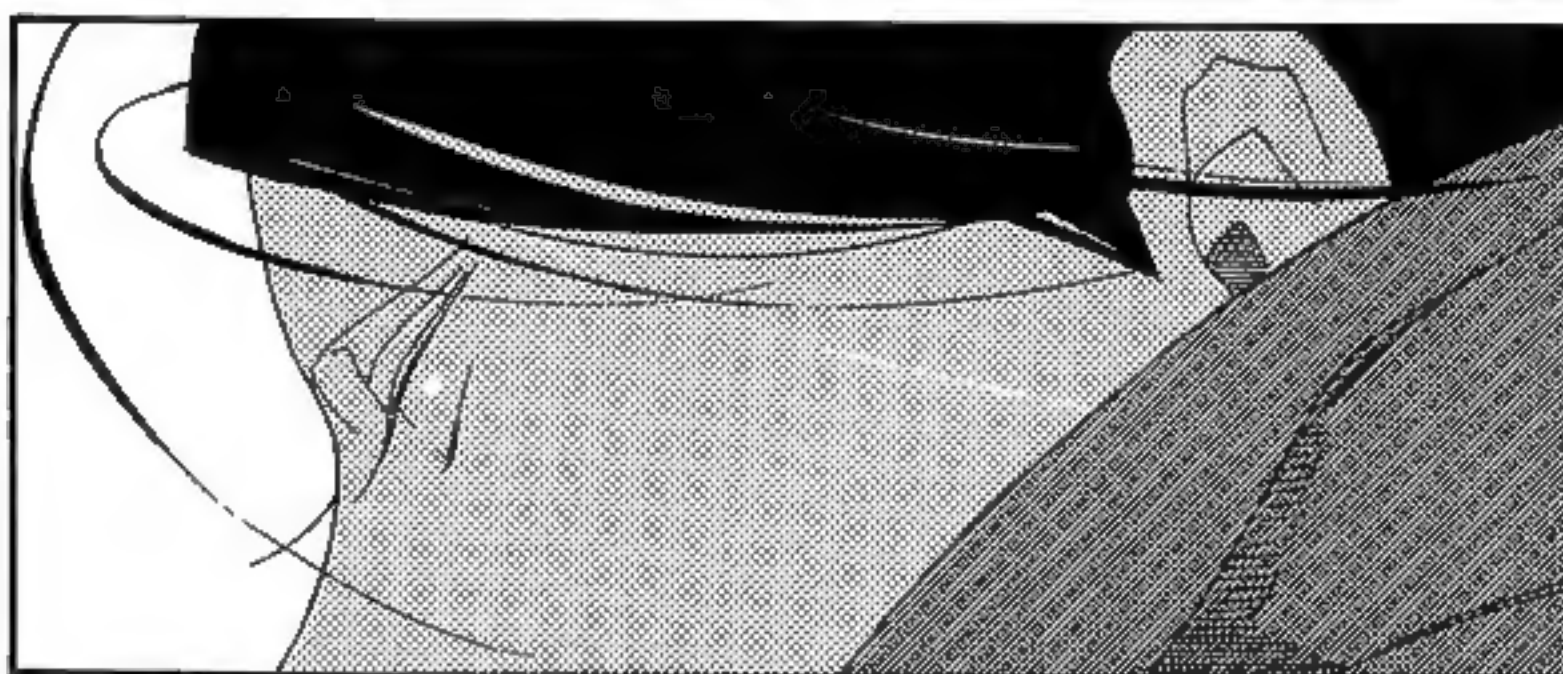
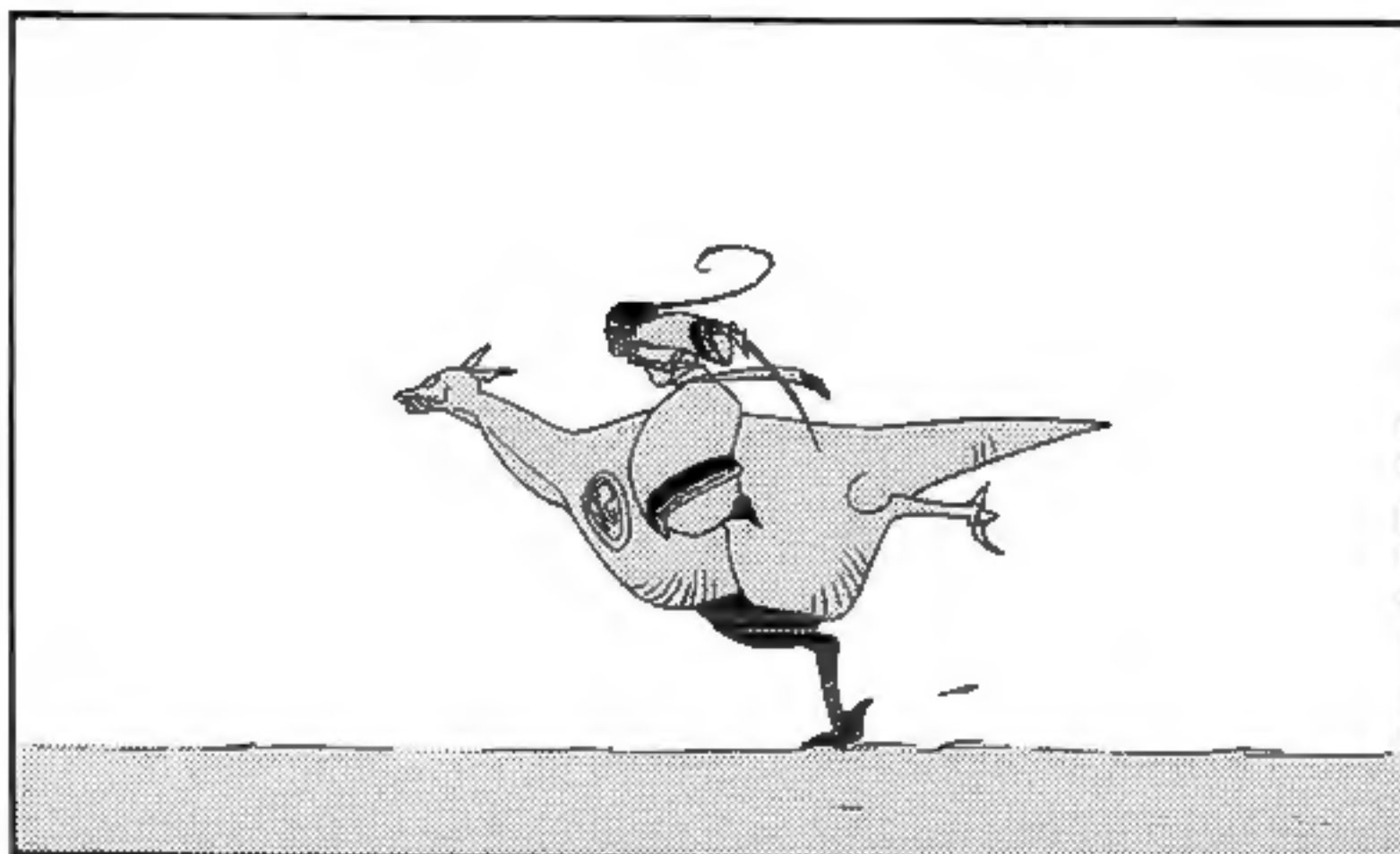
SFX forger: Acillus

perdition: Tranquil Melancholy

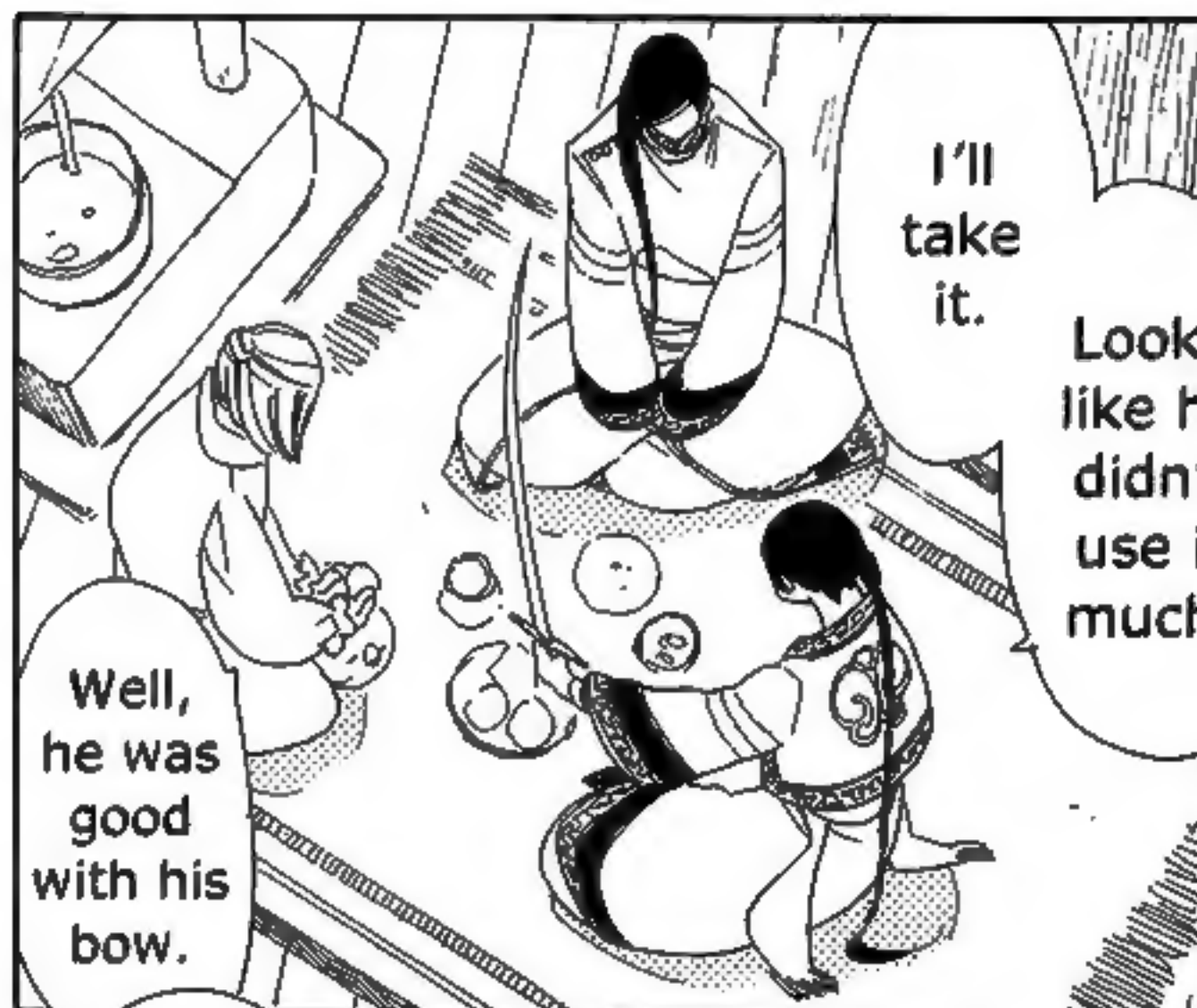
Looking for typesetters for all projects.

31.5.2021

TALES OF
THE KINGDOM



—Where
did you
pull that
thing
from?



Well, he was good with his bow.

I'll take it.

Looks like he didn't use it much.

Father's chest.



I can use it even with just one arm.

I wonder.

Look at you, swinging that thing around while eating.

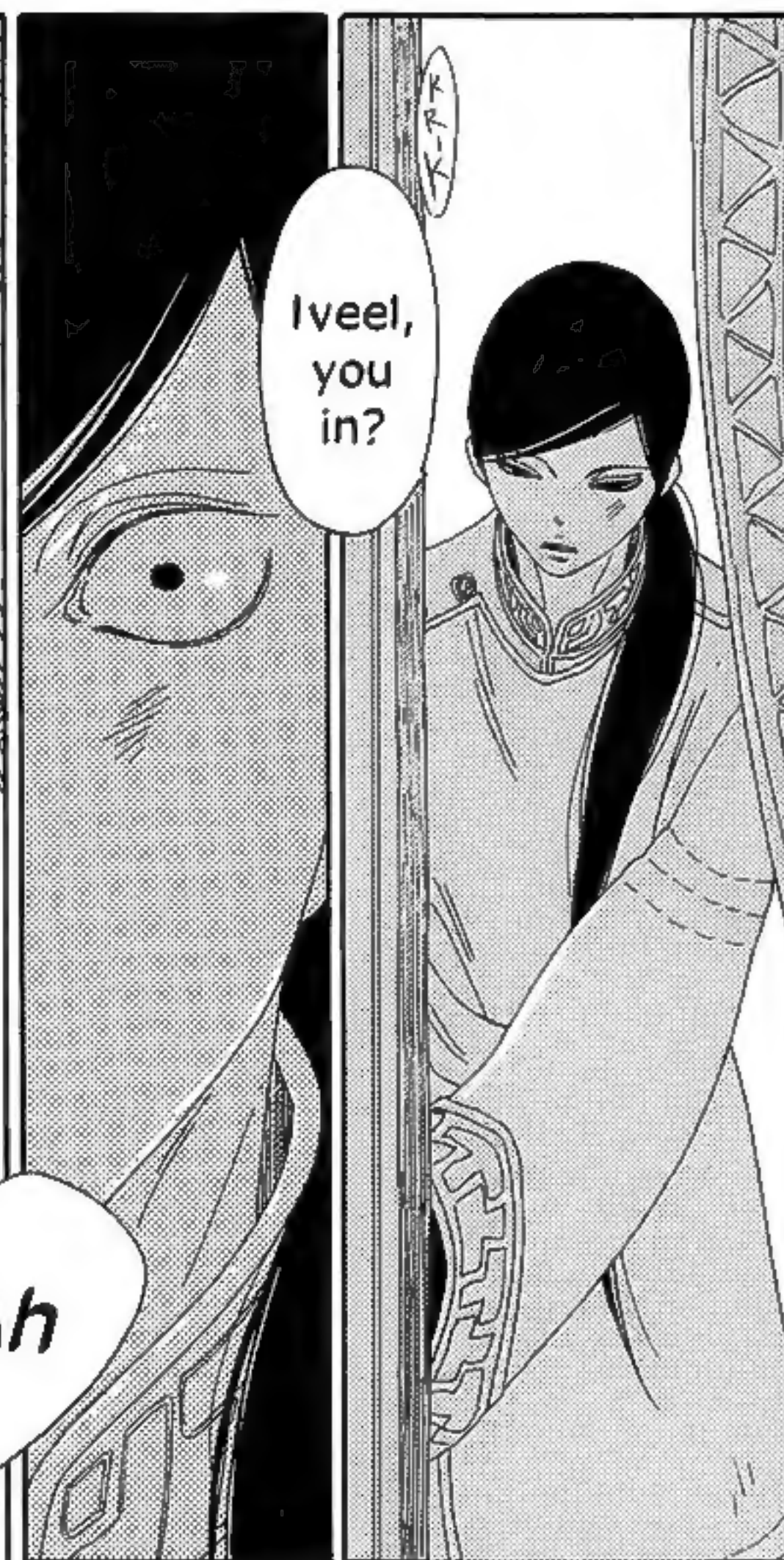
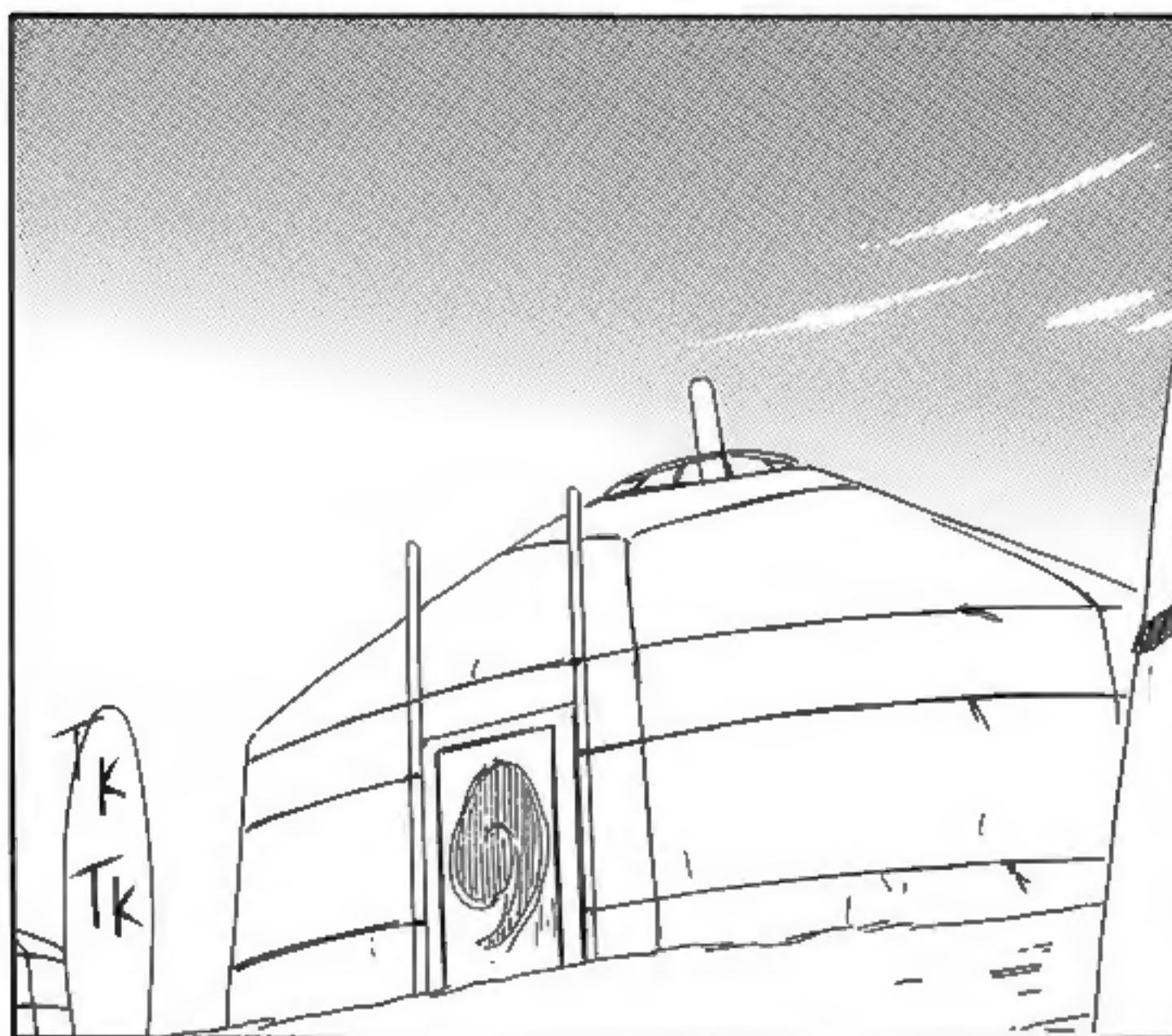
What a great swordsman you are.

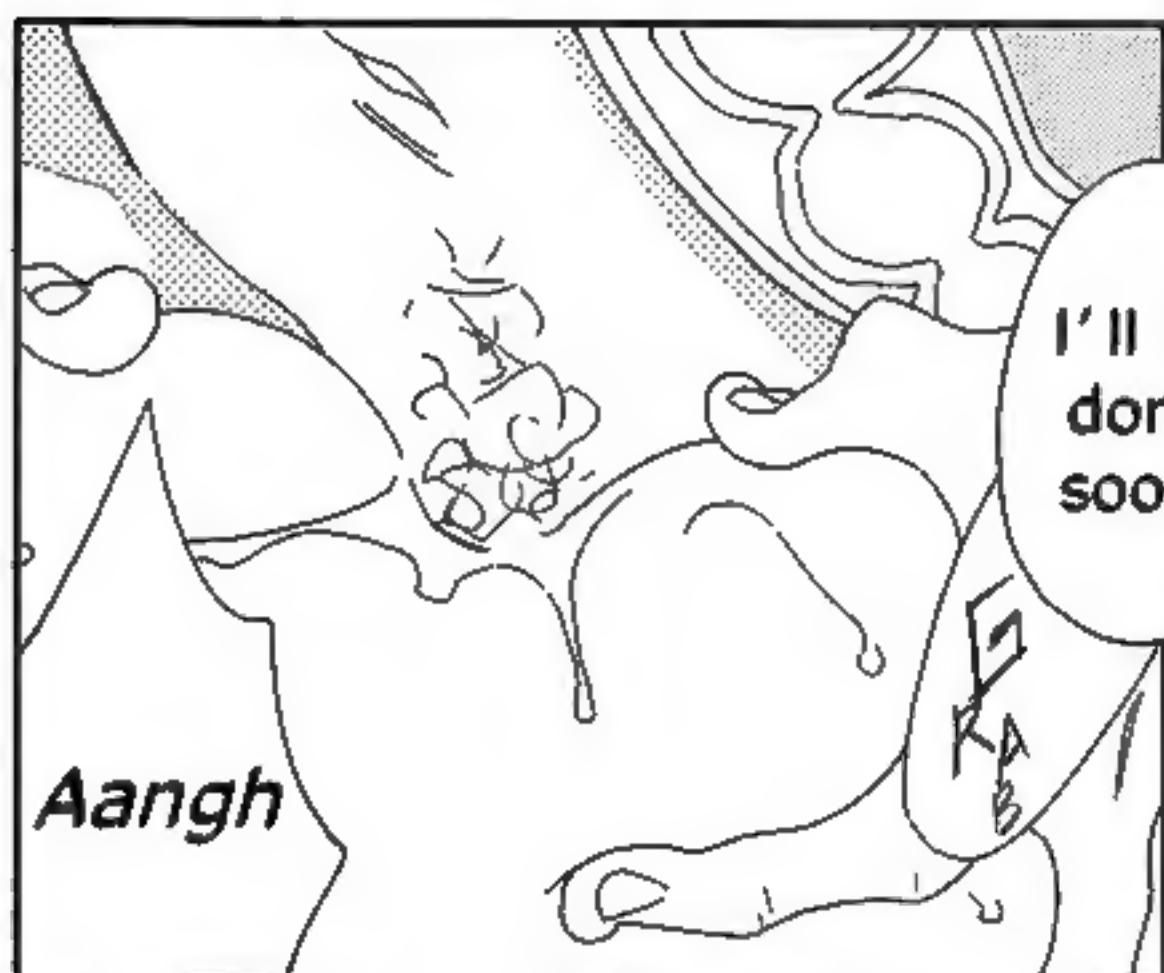


I'm going to I'veel's place.

Dao?







Aangh

I'll be
done
soon.

Wait.

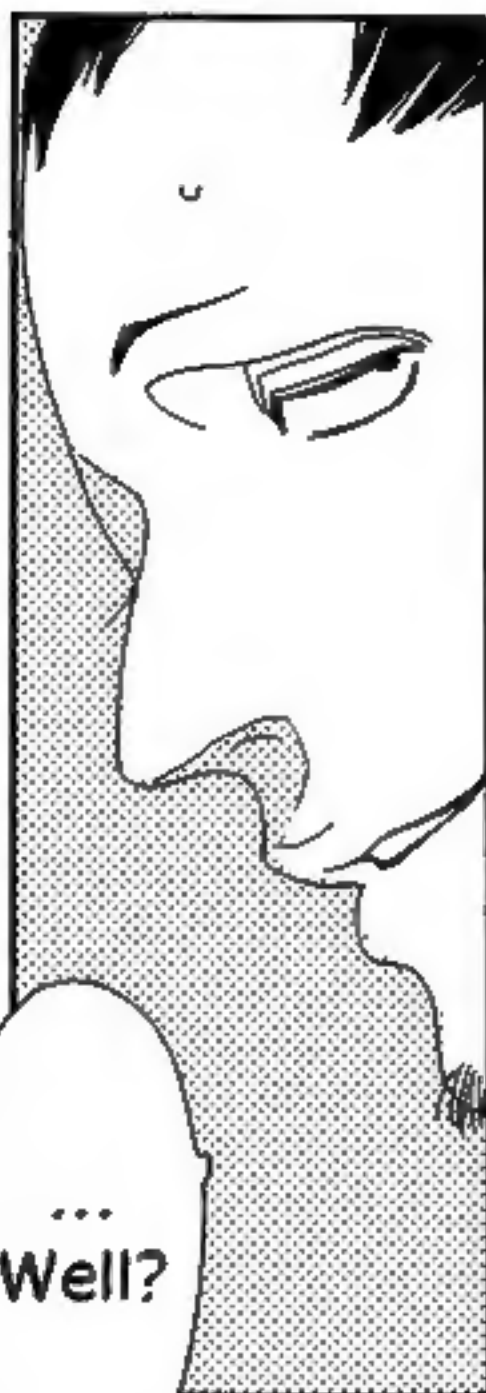


Ah

Ah

Ah

Ah



...
Well?



Uh

a...





Even you
feel some
attachment,
eh?

Heh



Aren't
you lively
down
there?

Haha



...It
hasn't
been
decided
that it's
me yet.



You
need
some-
thing?

Why
are you
here?



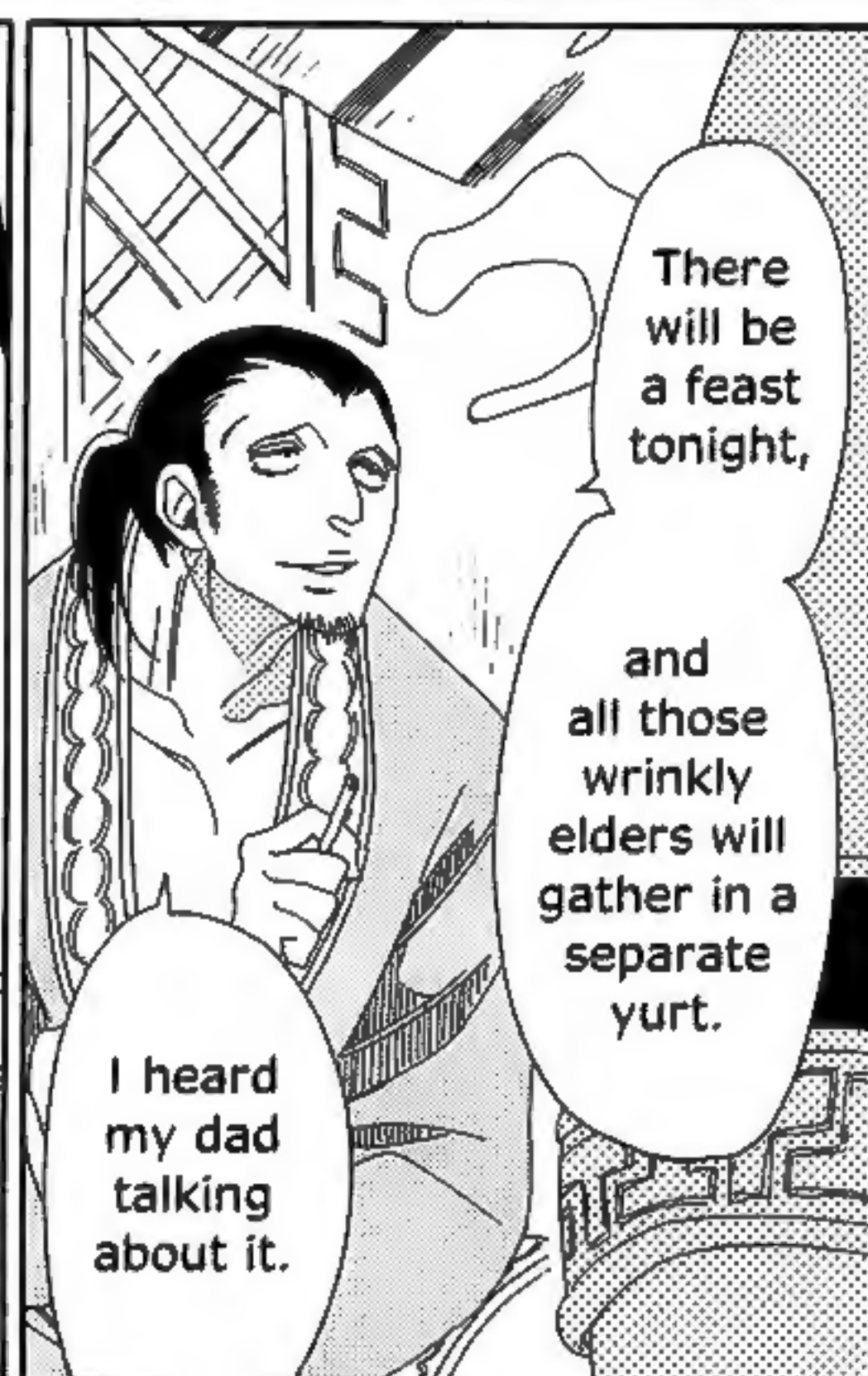
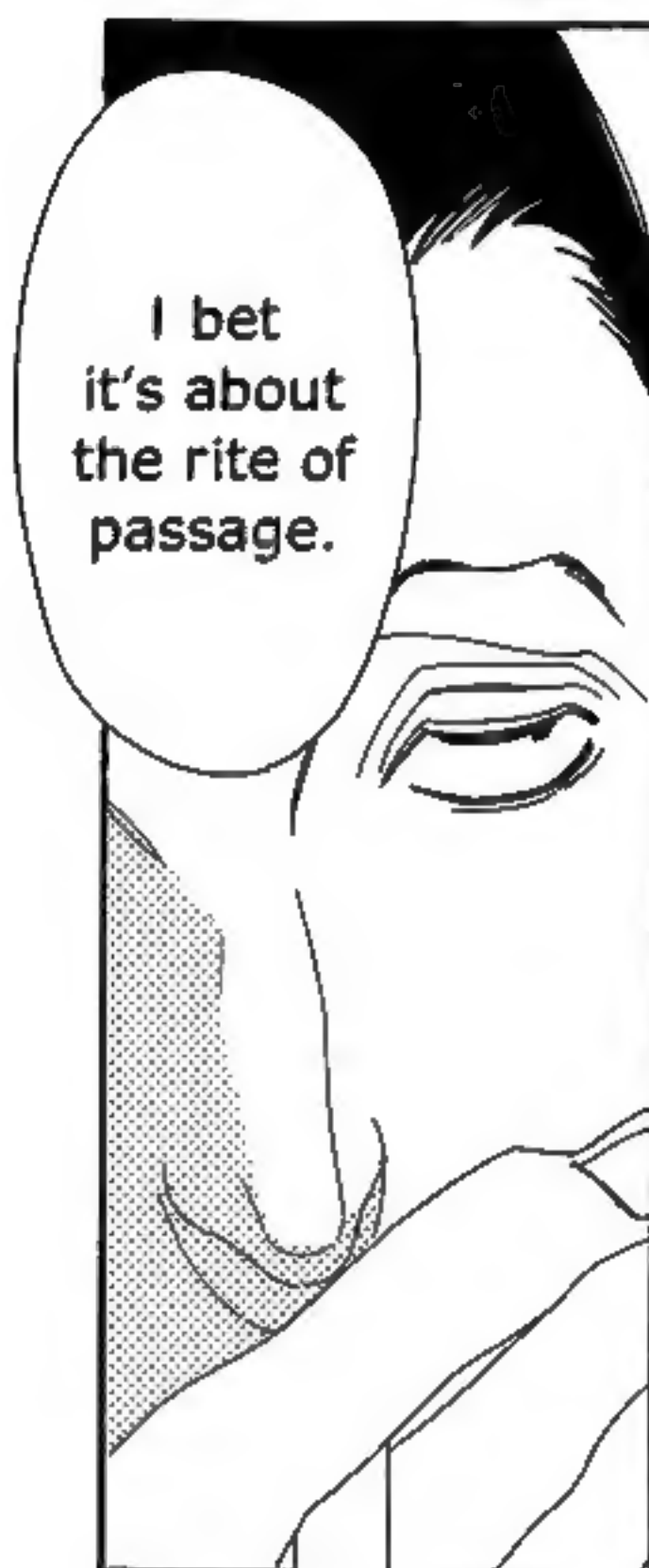
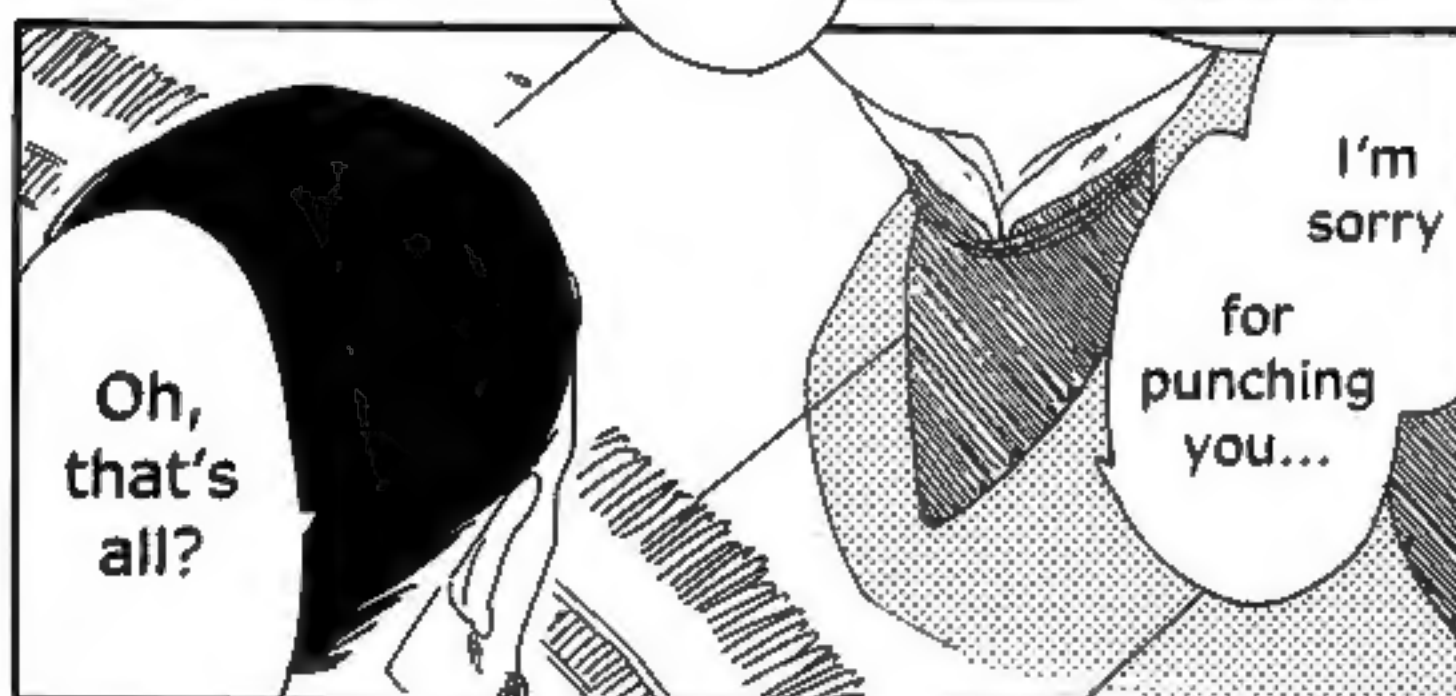
Well?

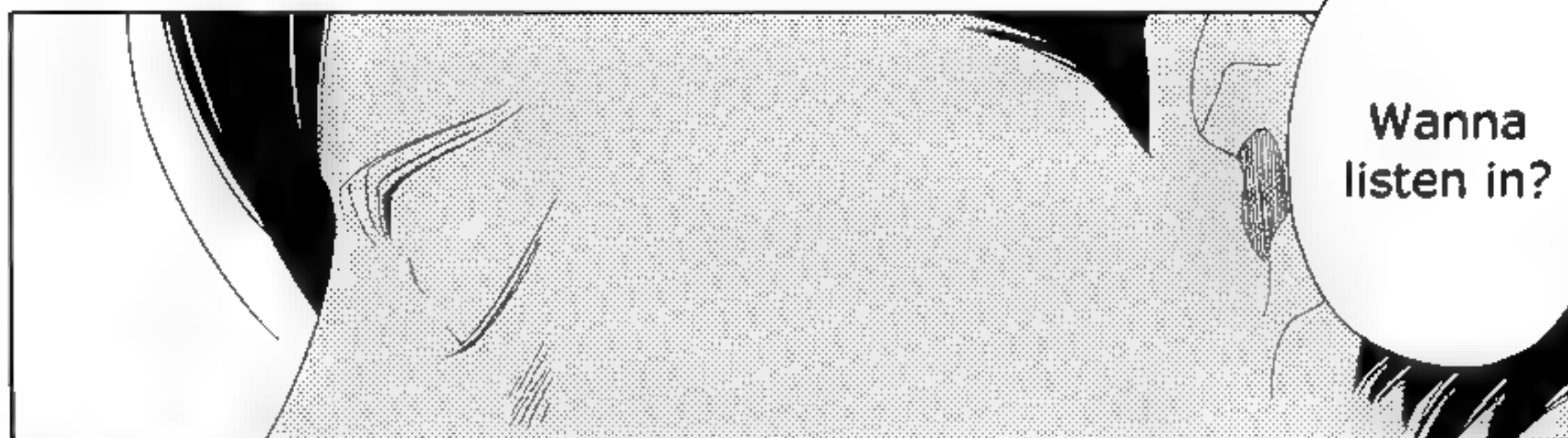
Hey,
how long
are you
going to
lie there?
Get out.



I guess
anyone
would.

SLAP





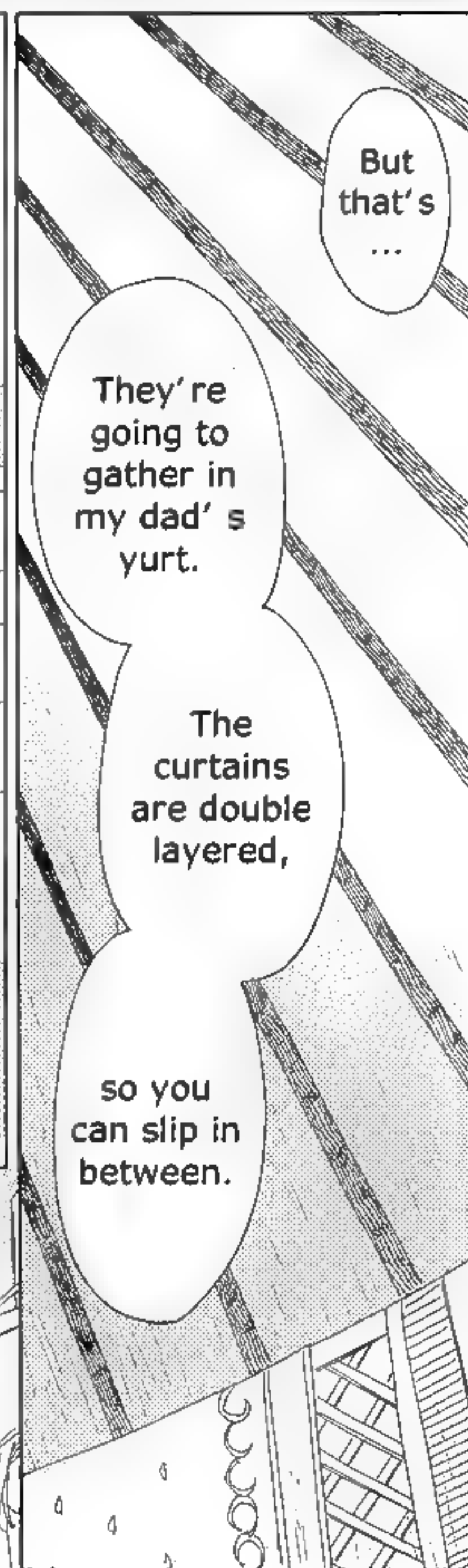
Wanna
listen in?



Well?



They
wouldn't
notice a
person
or two
hiding in
there.



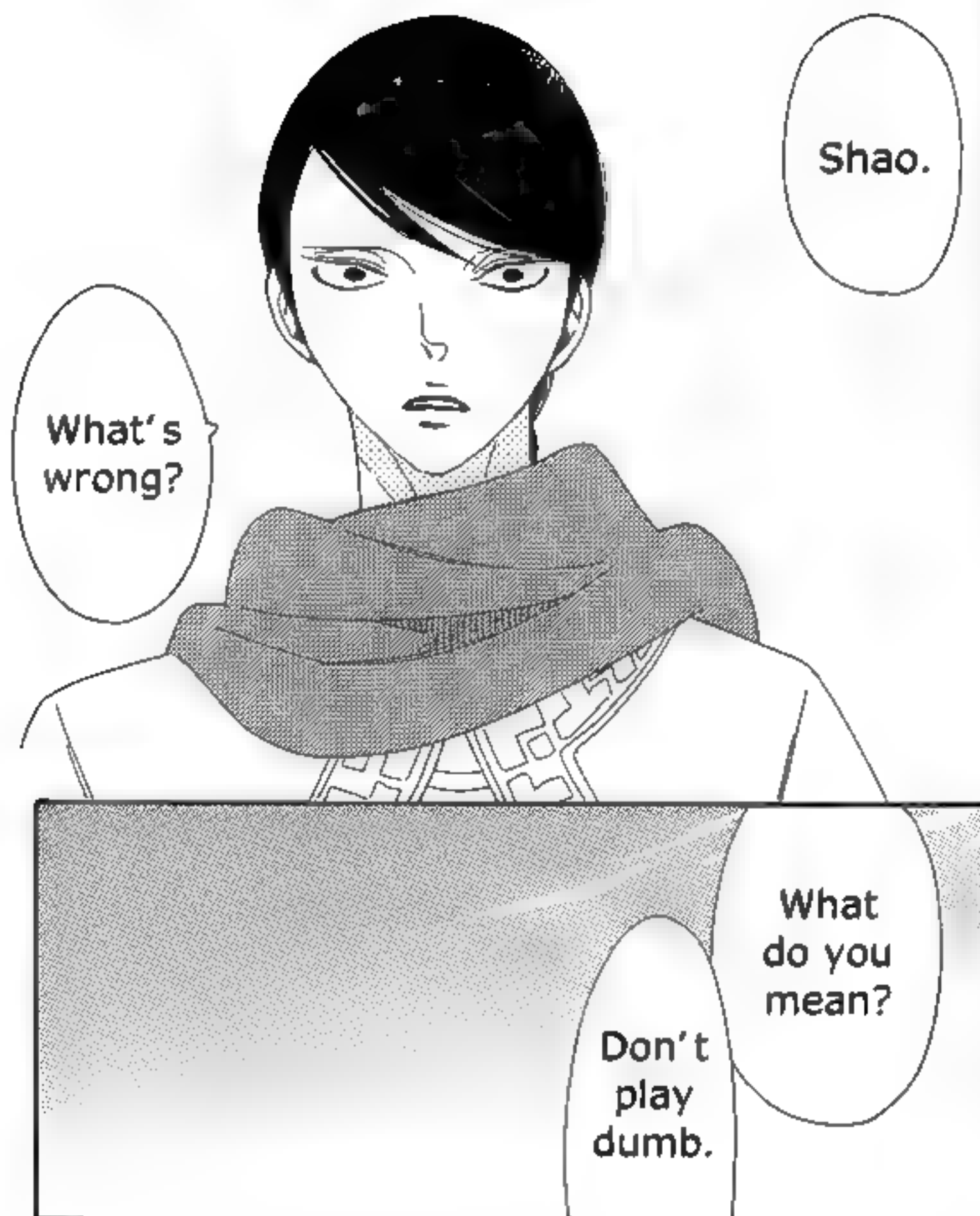
But
that's
...

They're
going to
gather in
my dad's
yurt.

The
curtains
are double
layered,

so you
can slip in
between.

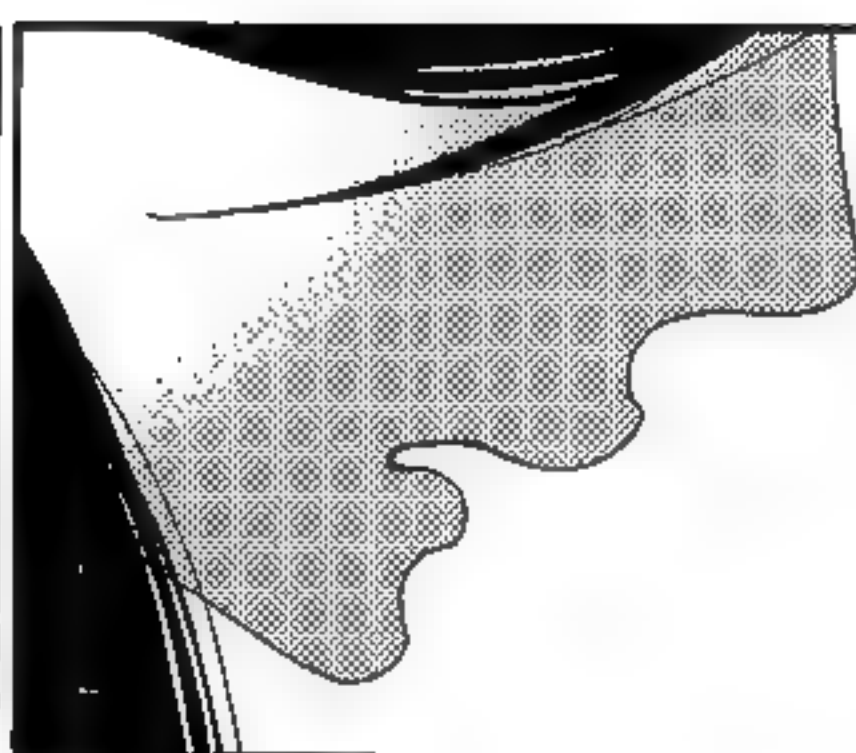
Dao.





Confident,
aren't
you?

That's
not it.



...Shouldn't I be?
Soon they will
decide whether
I should be
allowed to live
as a man.



You
seem
fine.



It's
not our
decision
to make.



Look at my
arm. It's
obvious
that—

Enough.



There are
only a few
chances left
for us to drink
together
like this.

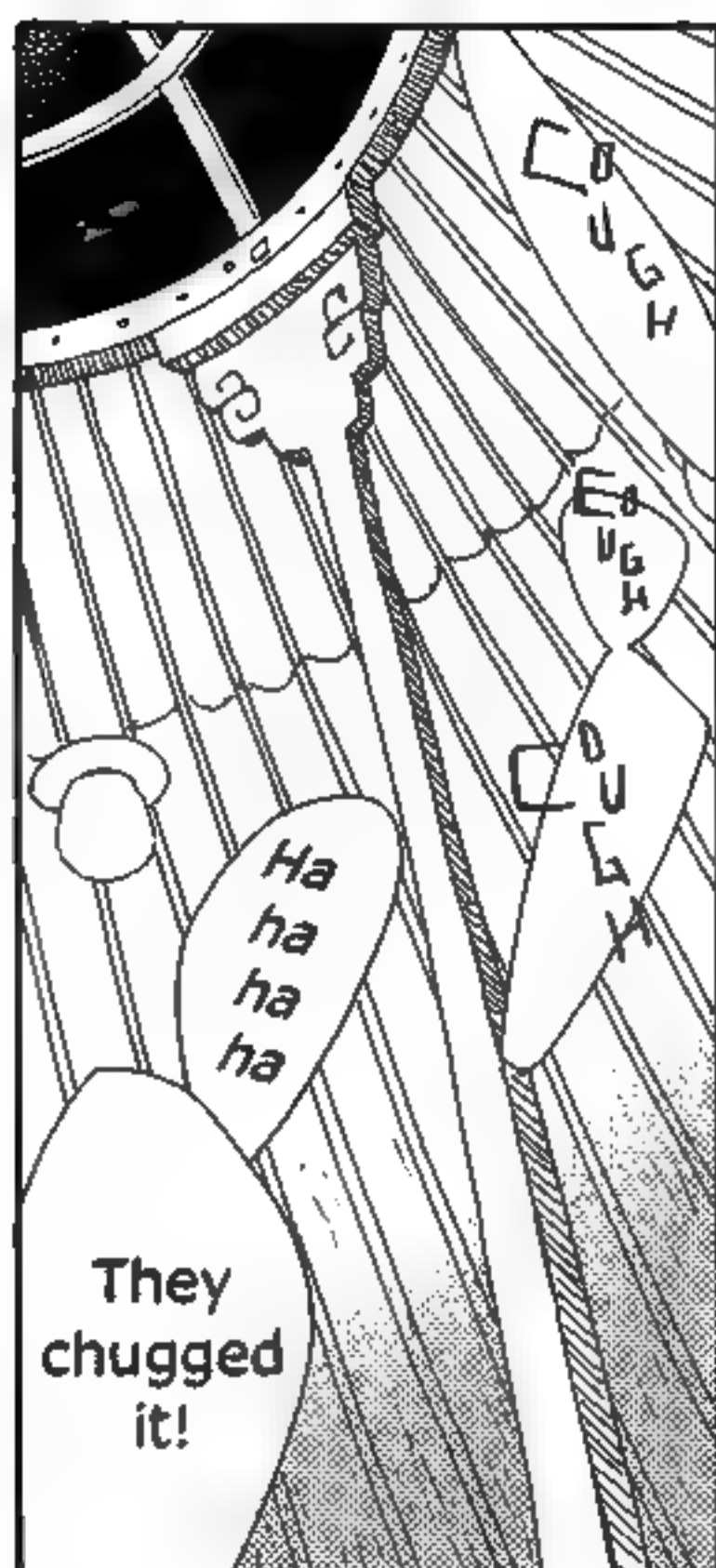


Boys,
come
here.

It's
only fun
because
we rarely
meet.

How
regretful.

After
the rite
of passage,
we all must
return to our
families,
eh?





Tonight,
I'll
dance.



Yeah,
sing.

Stand
up.



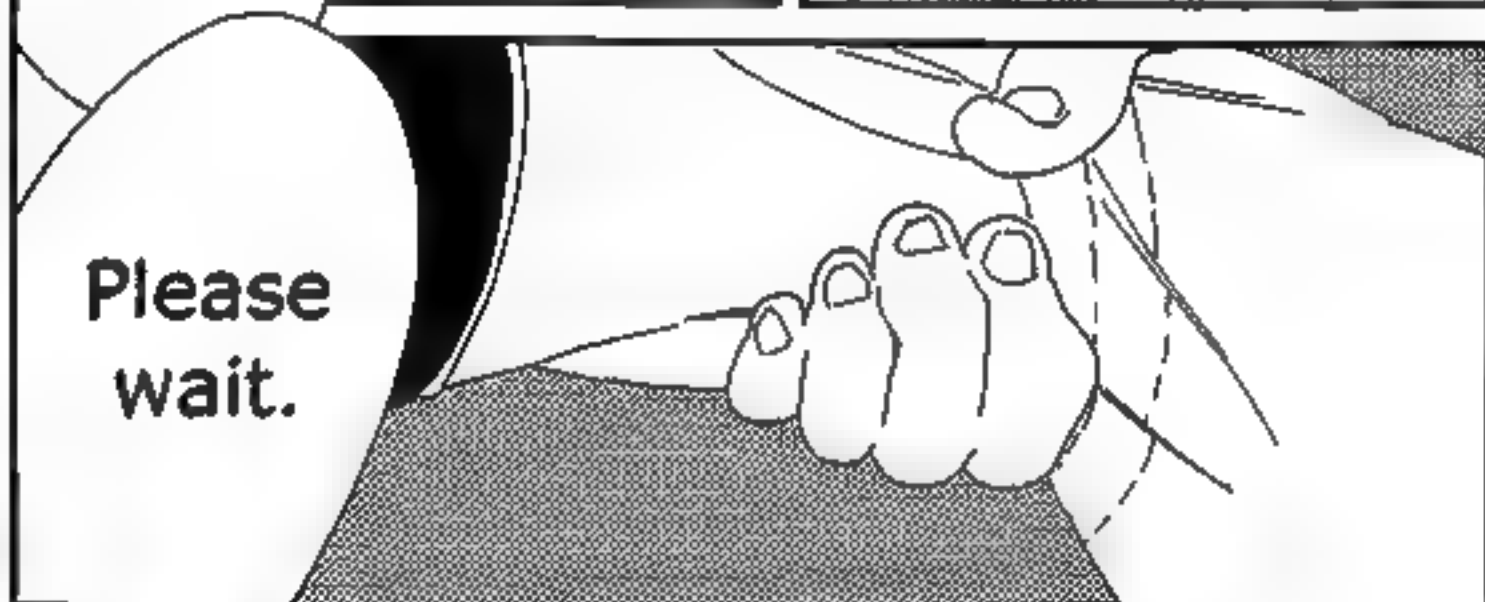
Dao,
you
dance.



Twins!
What an
amazing
sight.

Nice.

Shao,
sing.



Please
wait.



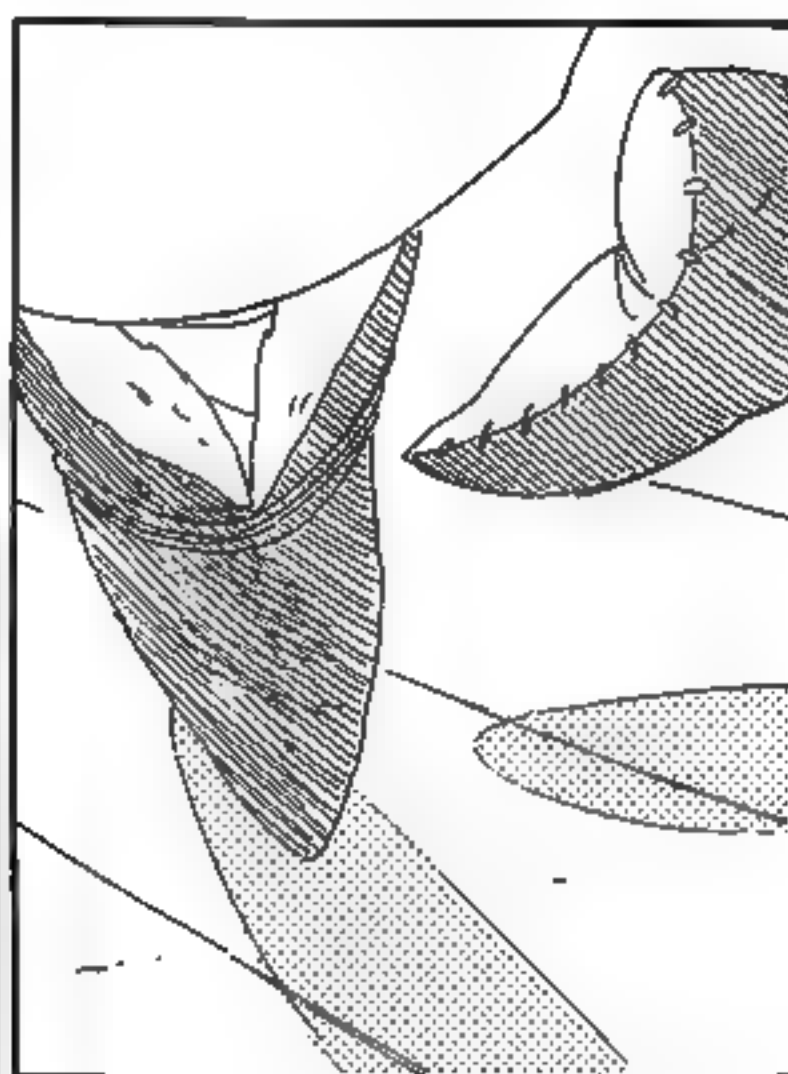
Let me
show
you.

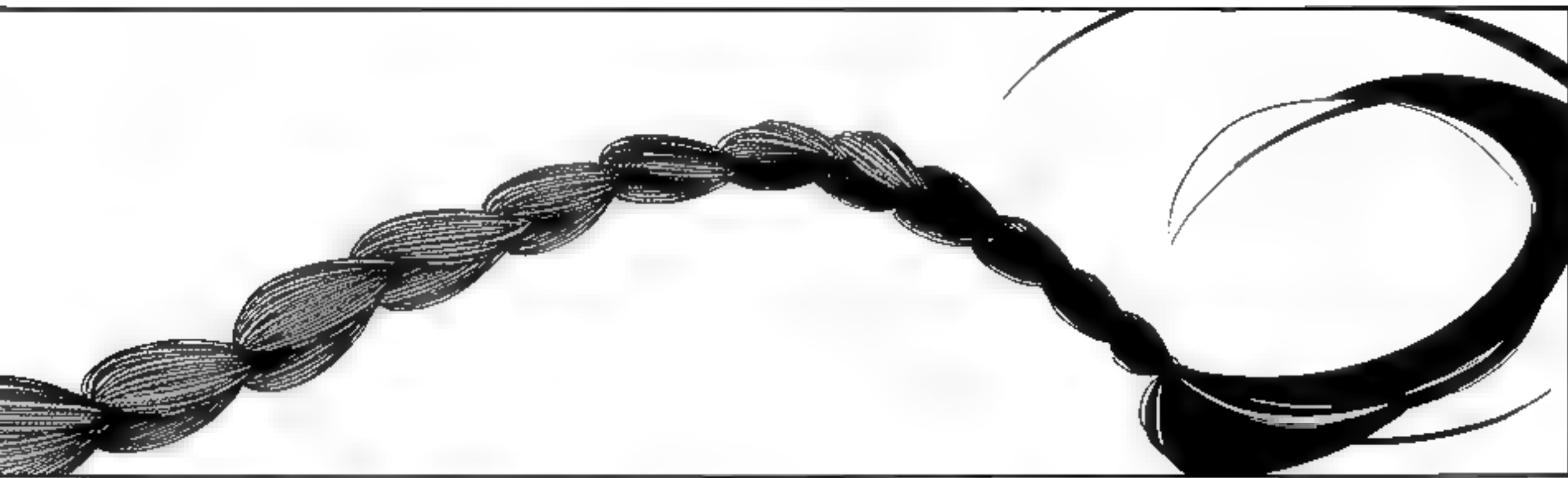


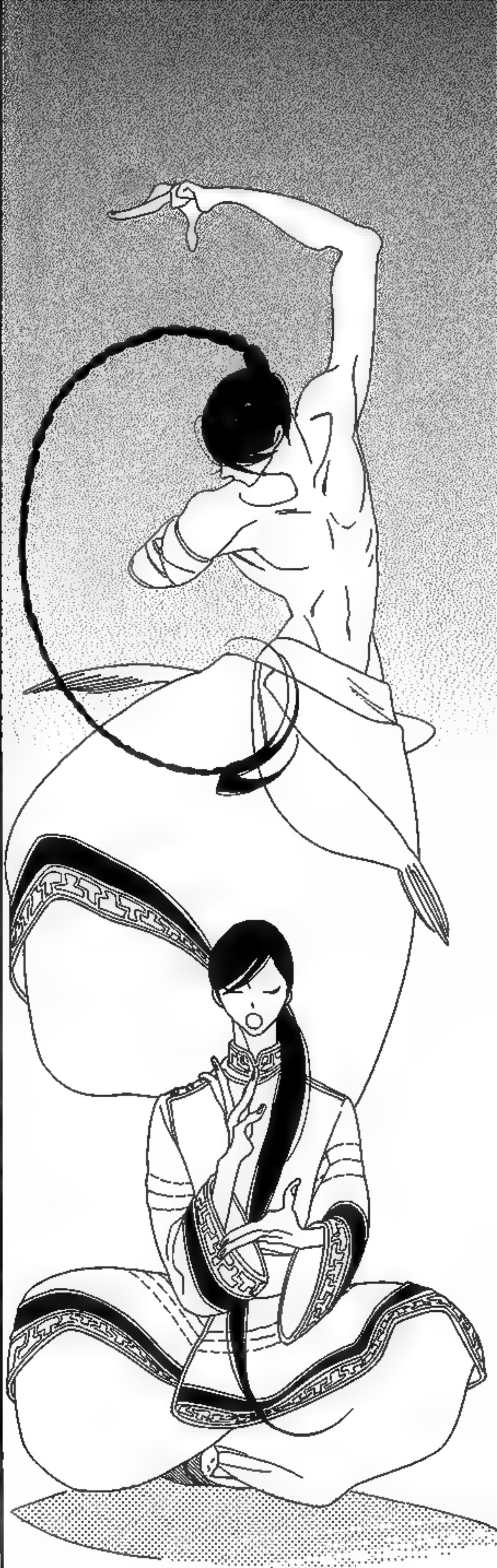
Can
you even
dance
with one
arm?

You'll
just trip
and fall.

You
will?

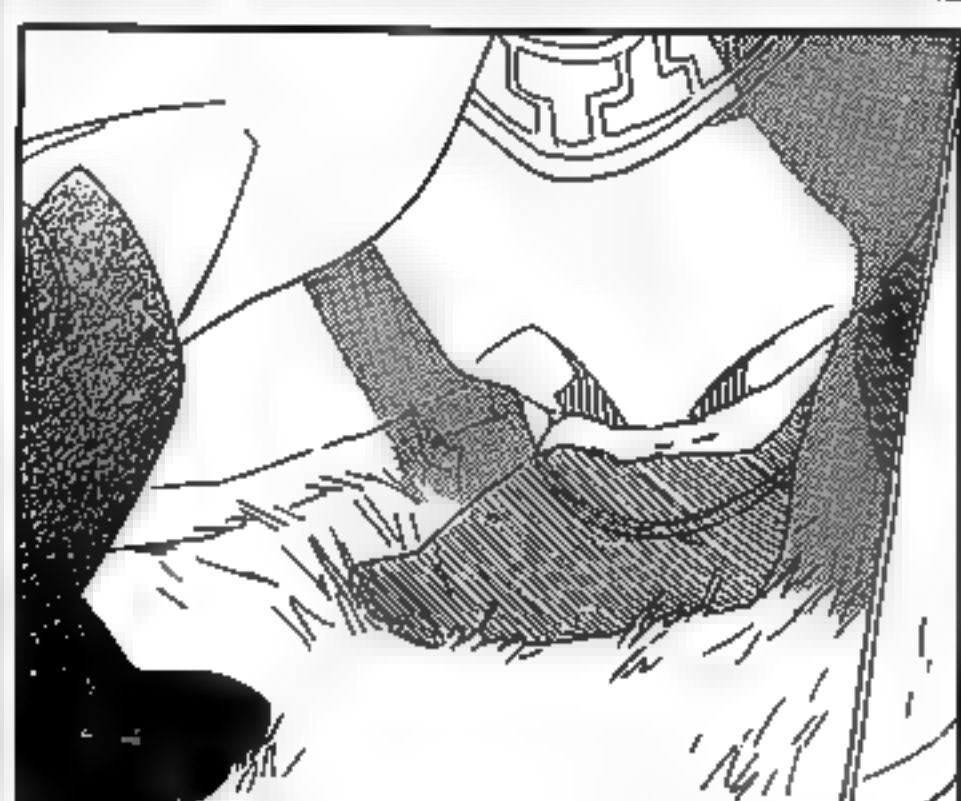
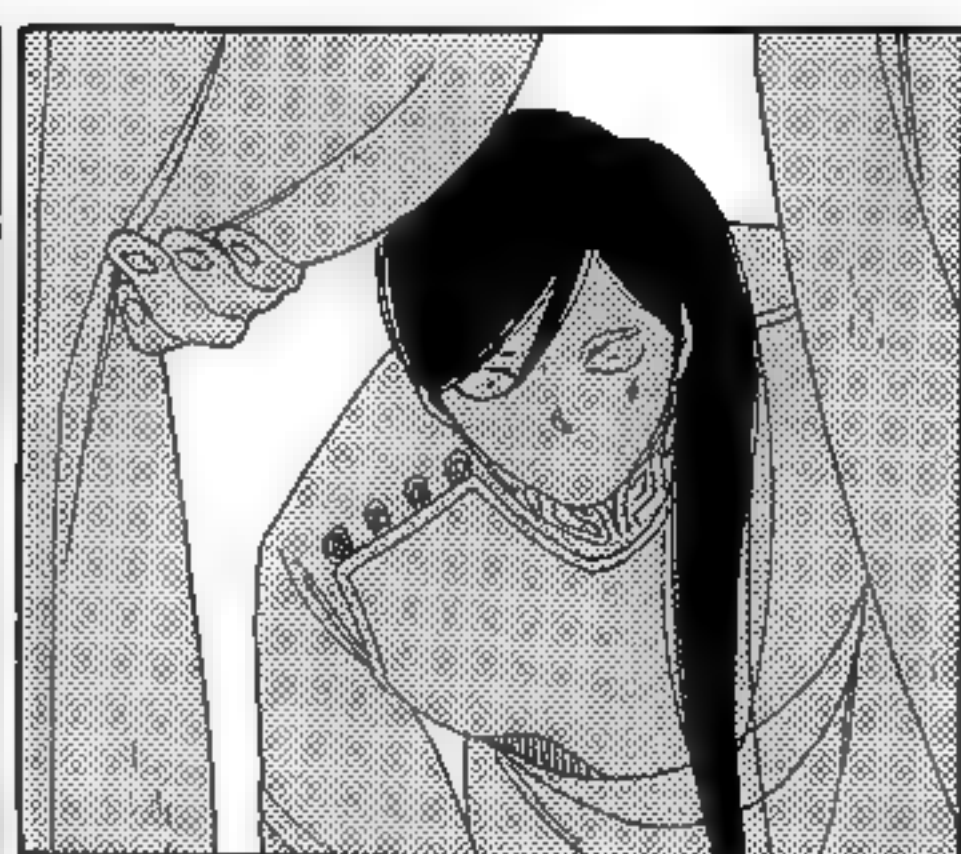
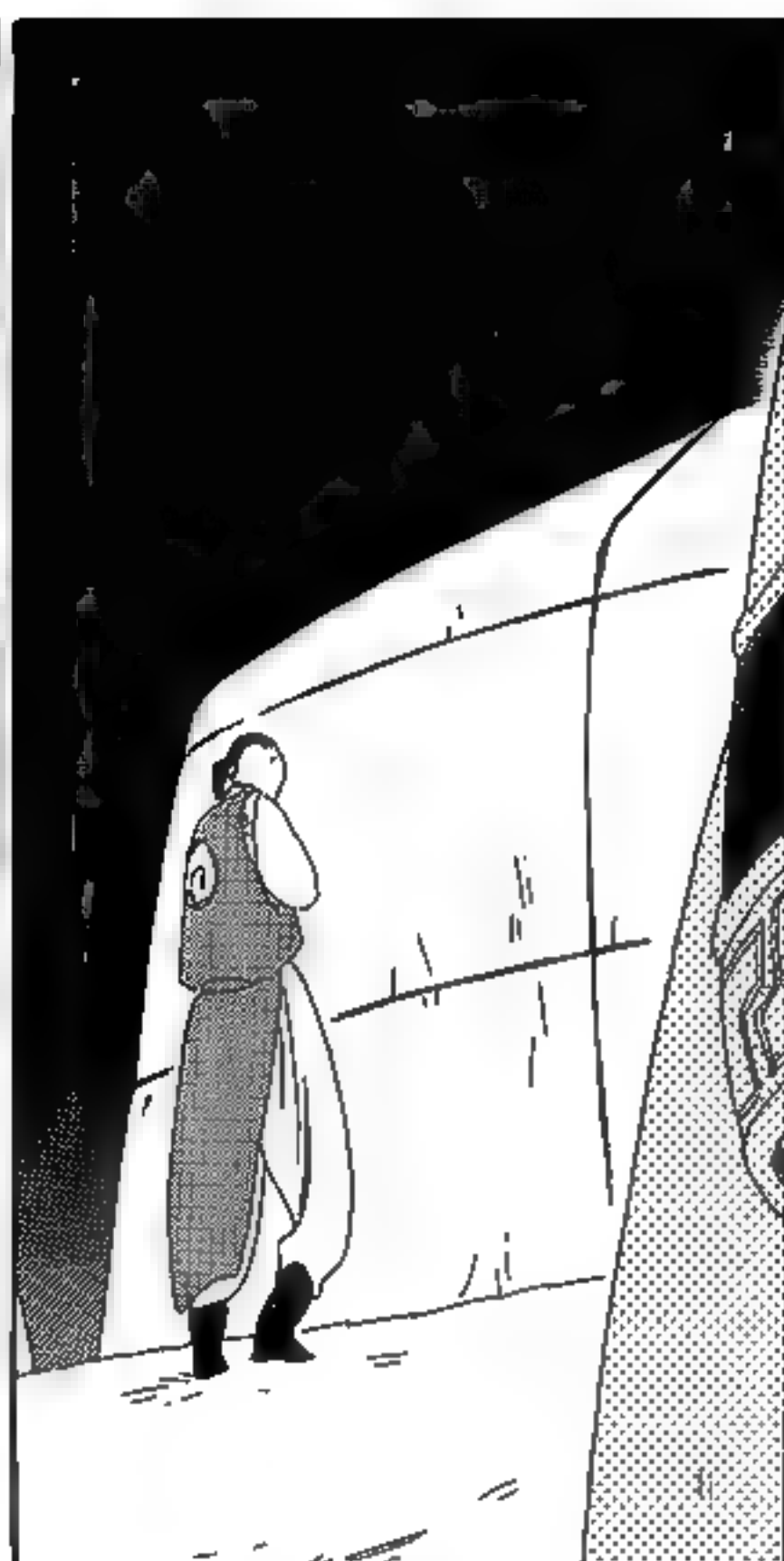
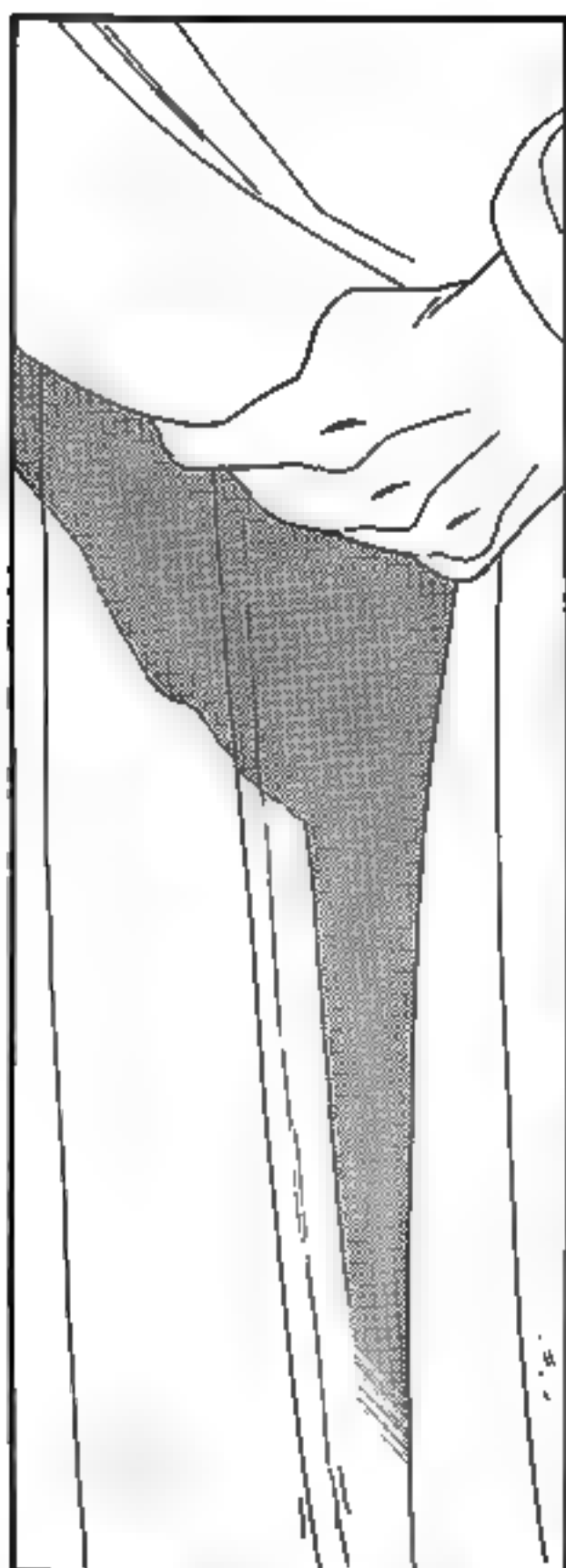






What
a cold
brother.





—What
should
we do?



He could
change
his mind
at any
time.

But
we can't
trust that
Moonlight
King.

Continuing
the trade
with
Sharibalte
would be
the wisest
choice.

Still, it is
anything but
judicious
to stir
a hornets'
nest.
Sharibalte is
a powerful
country.

We'll
just
have
to wait
and
see.

By
the
way,

What a
slender
nape.

what
should
be done
about the
Maraukai
ritual?



Hey.



Want to
be my
woman?

Hmm
...



What's
there
to do?

He
can't
lead the
family
with
just one
arm.



Getting
women is
easy right
now,

What
use is
there in
swinging
that
thing
around?

but I
can't bring
women to a
battlefield.

Don't
forget
that his
arm was
ripped off,
and he only
has himself
to blame
for it.



LUCK




I'veel
...

Shh

But
he is
already
riding
uma
again

and is
learning
how to
wield a
sword.



You won't be able to have a family anyway.

Such a reckless young man is un—

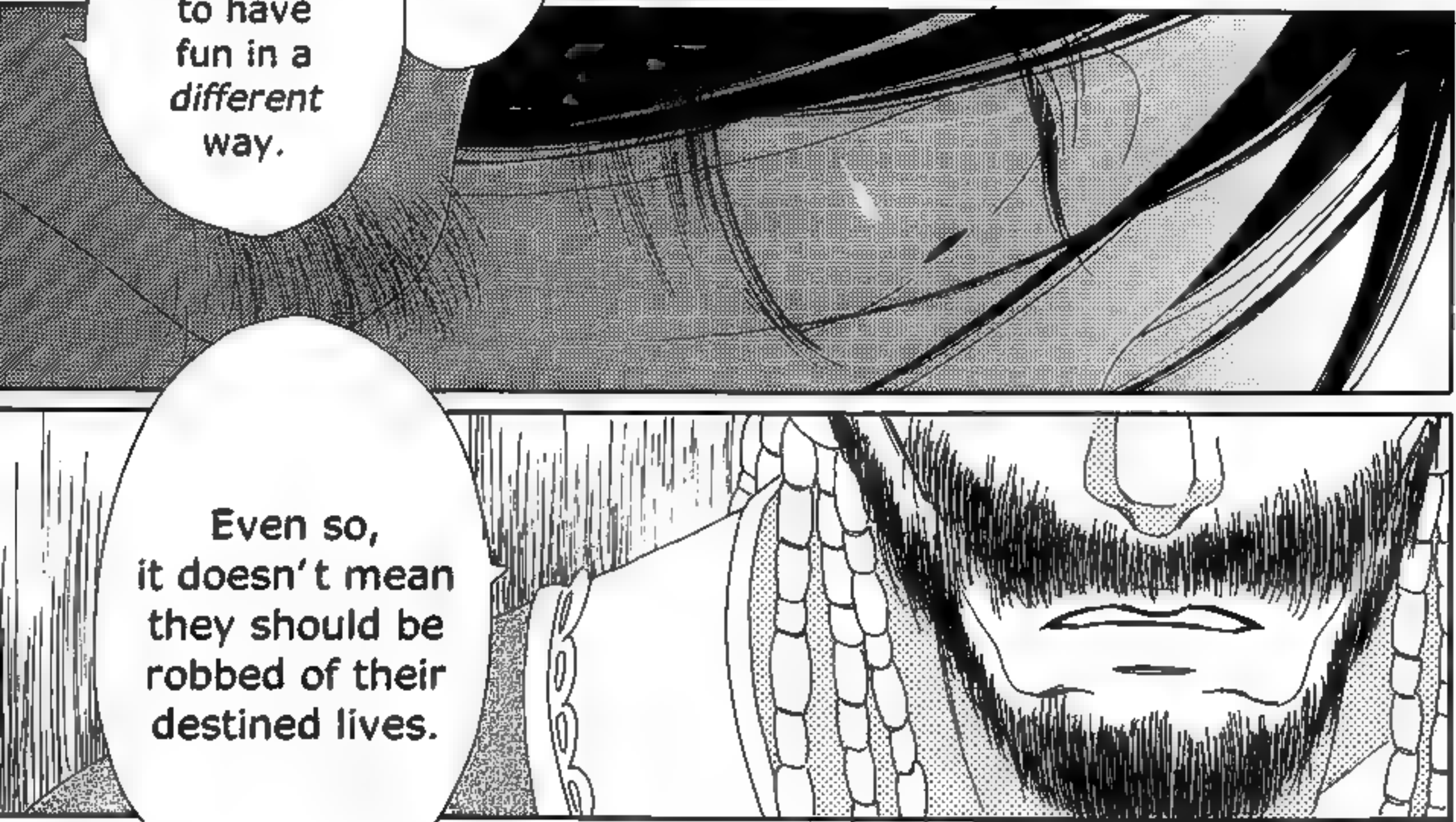
Now, let's not make any noise.

Still,

a man who can't shoot an arrow can't really be considered a Han warrior.

If you put that way, Dao also played a part in it.

So, you should learn to have fun in a different way.



Even so, it doesn't mean they should be robbed of their destined lives.



Though Shao has lost his dominant arm,



he hasn't lost sight of his path.



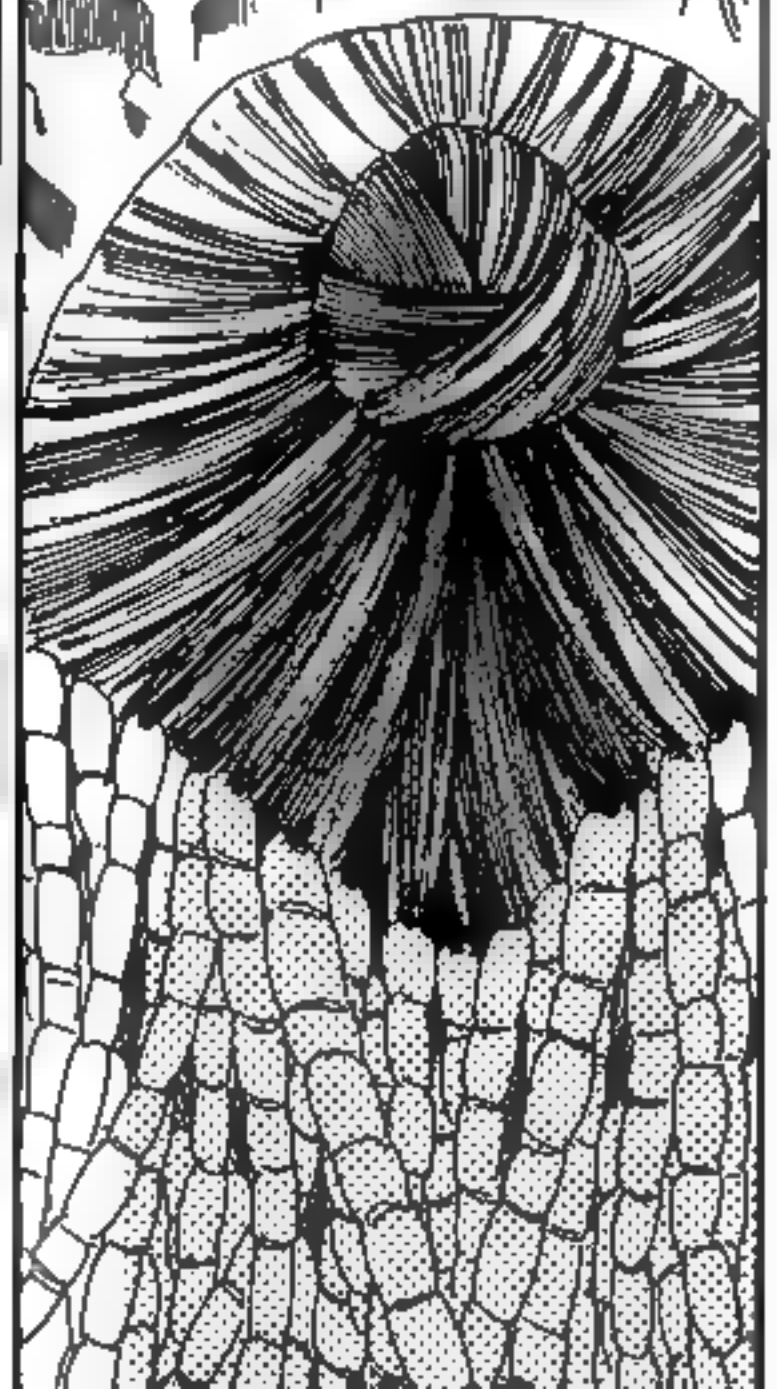
He accepted the ill fate which befell him

and moves forward with a courageous heart.



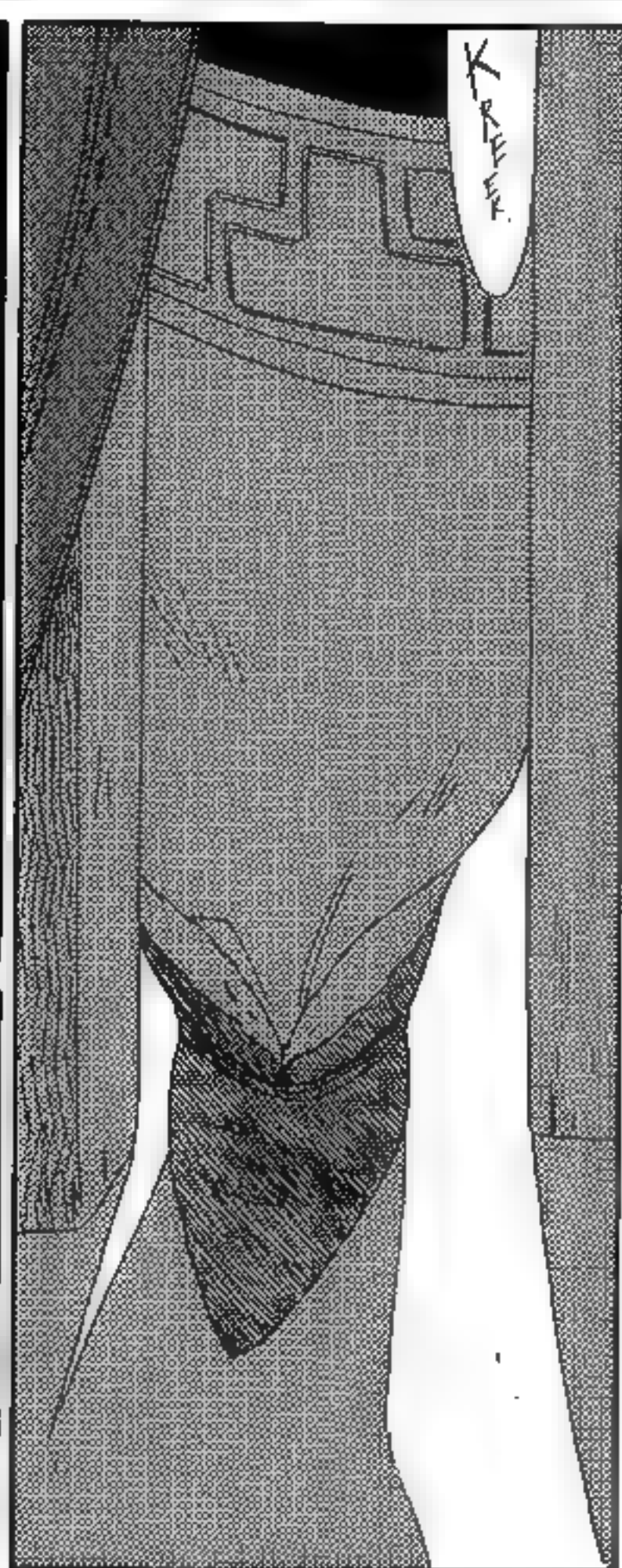
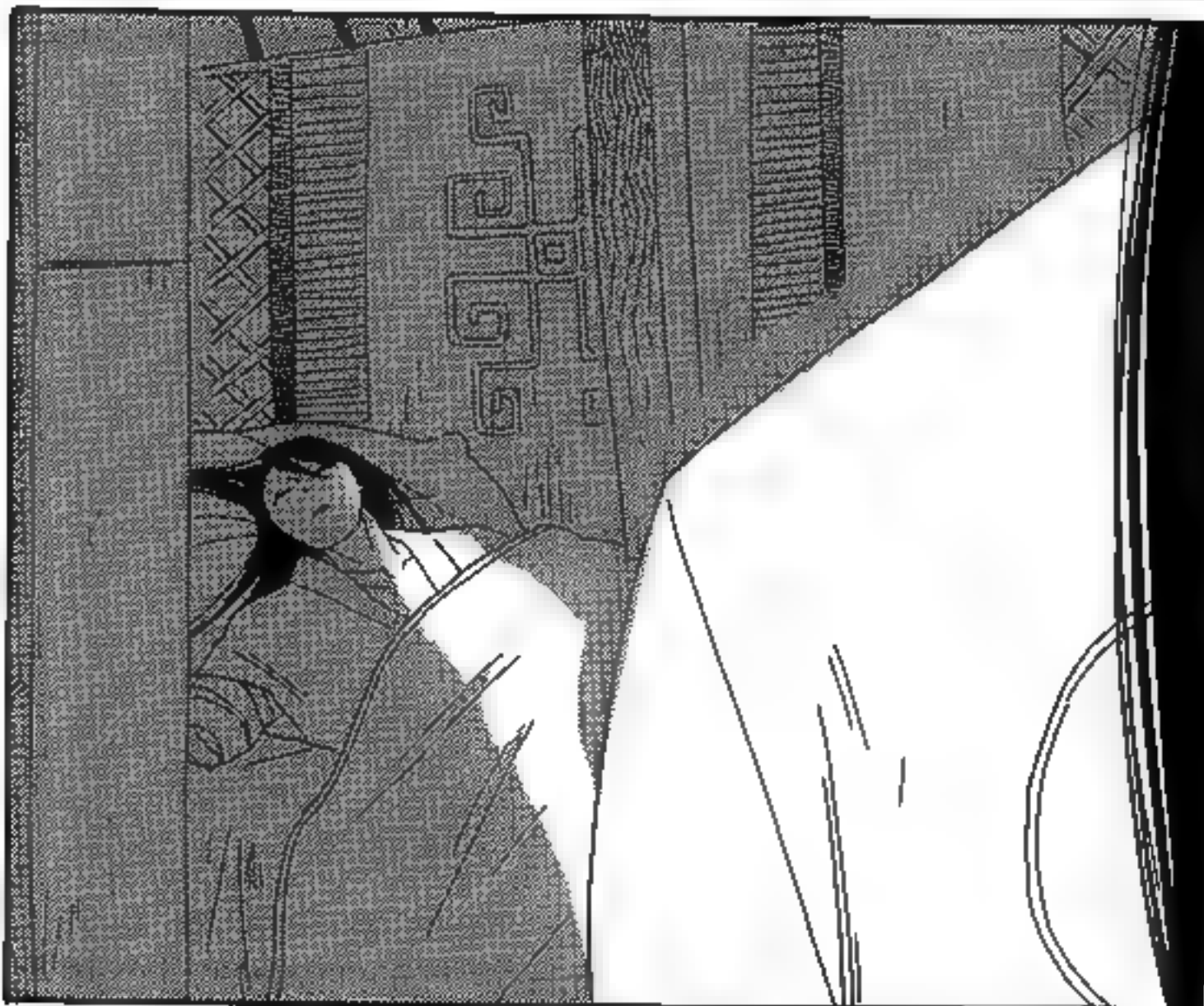
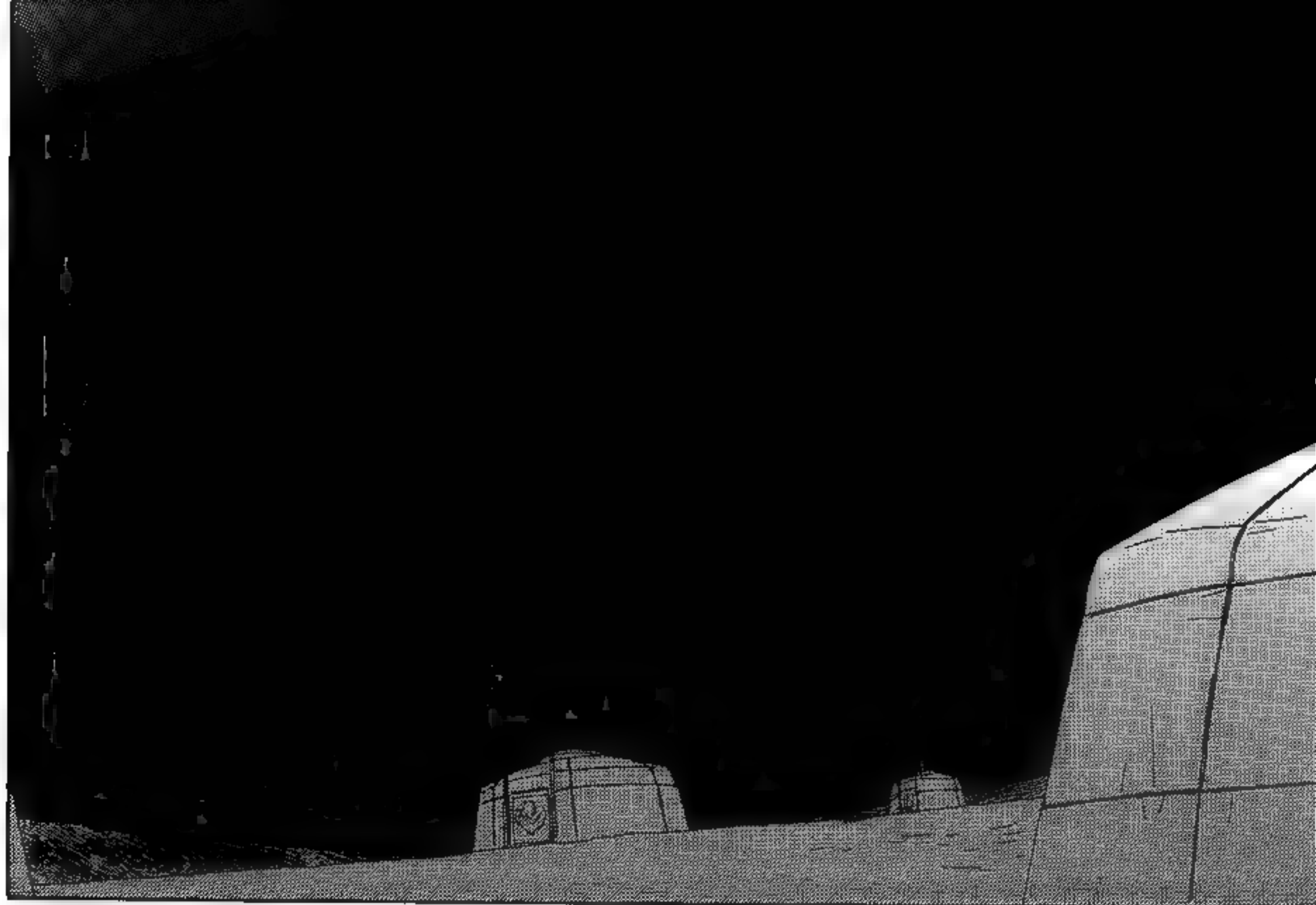
Those were their father's words.


Even though I was against keeping both the twins after their birth.






He is
fit to lead
his family.
That's what
I think.






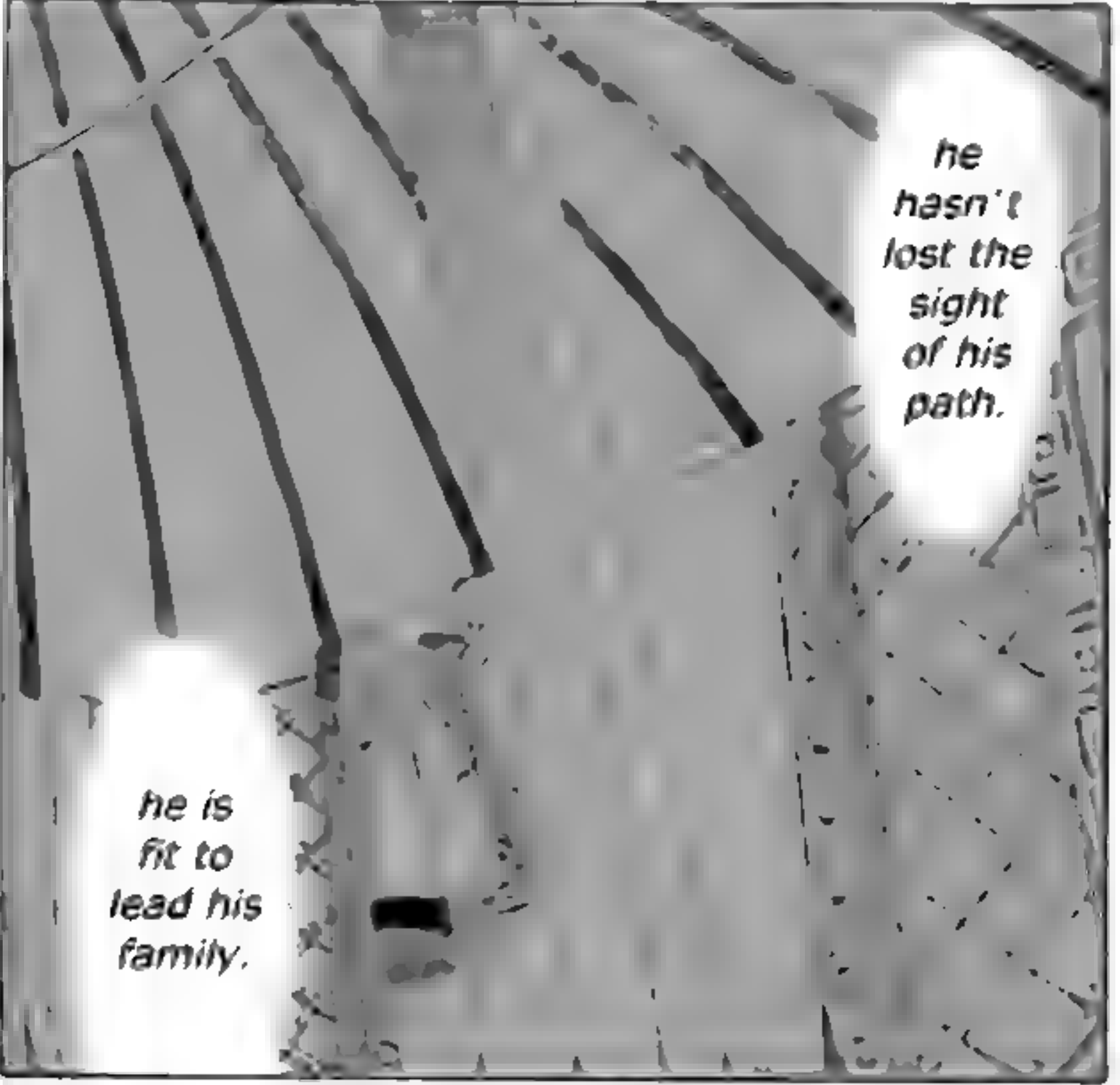
*Though
Shao has
lost his
dominant
arm,*



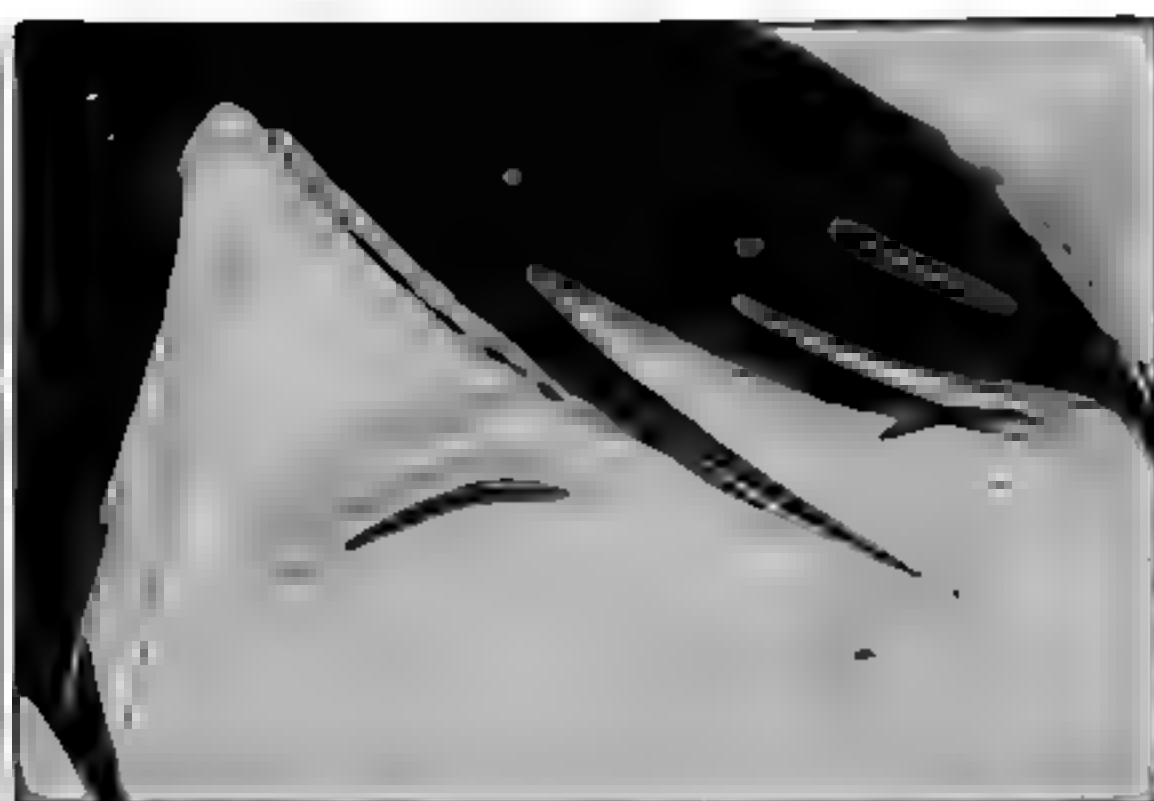
*he
hasn't
lost the
sight
of his
path.*



*That's
what
I think.*



*he is
fit to
lead his
family.*





No.
This
is...



...
Ah

No.

Dao

...

A
A
A
R
G
H



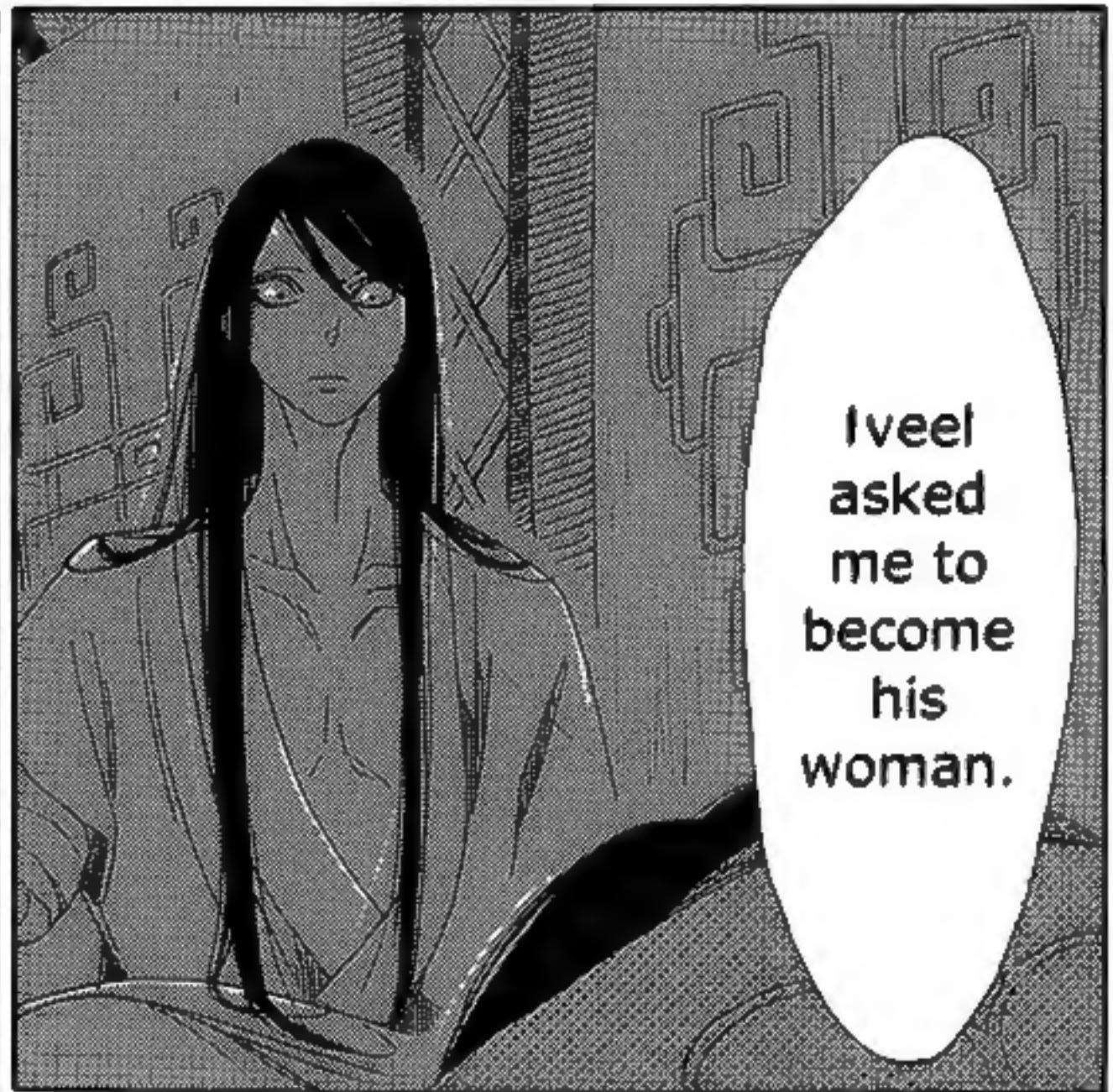
H

...
Dao?



Dao
...

*Please
just
kill
me!*



I've
asked
me to
become
his
woman.



*I
hate
it!*

*I can't
take it
any-
more!*

*It's
suffo-
cating
...*

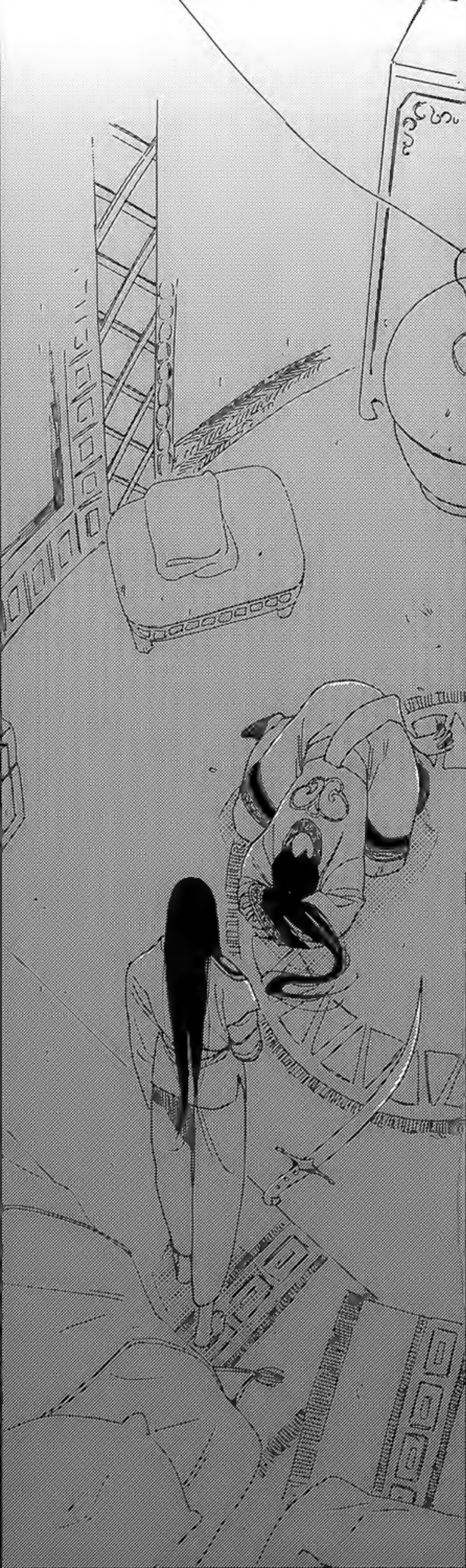


...
for
me
...

There
is no
other
option
left.

You'll
succeed
the
family.

26



living...

in
your
shadow

...

